



Rural District Council of Pickering.

---

---

ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending  
December 31st, 1938.

---

---



# Rural District Council of Pickering.

---

---

## ANNUAL REPORT

of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending  
December 31st, 1938.

---

---

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit my report on the health and on the conditions which affected the health of your district during the year 1938.

There has been no change in the boundaries of your district during the year.

### **SECTION A. Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.**

The Area in acreage is 74,865.

The estimated resident population to the middle of 1938 is 5,406.

The number of inhabited houses at the end of 1938 as taken from the rate books is 1,582.

The rateable value of the district is £15,990.

The sum represented by a penny rate is £65 : 4 : 0.

### ***Social Conditions.***

No new industries have been established within the district during the past year.

Agriculture and Market Gardening are the chief occupations of the inhabitants. The Forestry Commissioners have several large nurseries in different parts of your district and have planted several areas of moorland country. The work in these forests has helped to keep down the number of unemployed.

In the village of Thornton-le-Dale there is a large Flour Mill which employs a number of hands.

The number of unemployed during the year was rather less than in some previous years, as some found work in the building of Council Houses, the repairing of roads and under the Catchment Board.

No trade of an injurious nature to the health of the workers is found within the district. As far as I can learn the health of the children did not suffer from the amount of the unemployment that existed.

This district is divided into two parts by the Main Road running from Sinnington to Ebberston. The Northern part comprises a moorland track of Country interspersed with villages and hamlets, and is entirely of an agricultural nature. The lower half is low lying land, with villages scattered along the Main Road the whole extent of the district.

### **Vital Statistics.**

		Total	M	F	
Live Births	Legitimate	49	25	24	Births Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population .. 9.62
	Illegitimate	3	2	1	

	Total	M	F	
Still Births	3	2	1	Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births ... 54.5

Deaths	66	35	31	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population ... 12.21
--------	----	----	----	---

Deaths from Puerperal Causes, Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List :—  
 Death Rate per 1,000 total Live and Still Births ... none.  
 No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis none  
 No. 30. Other Puerperal Causes none

Death rate of Infants under one year of age :—  
 All Infants per 1,000 live births ... .. 19.23  
 Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births .. 20.41  
 Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births .. none

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	9
„ Measles (all ages)	..	..	..	none
„ Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	..	none
„ Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	..	..	..	none

The district was very free from all notifiable illness during the year. There was an extensive epidemic of Influenza in the earlier part of the year.

4 deaths were registered from Pnuemonia of which I received no notification.

There is nothing especially noteworthy to report as to any cause of sickness that occurred in the district.

### **SECTION B. General Provision of Health Services for the Area.**

The Public Health Officers of your Authority are as follows :—A part-time Medical Officer of Health, a Sanitary Inspector who is employed also by the Pickering Urban District, and possesses the certificates A.R.S.I. & M.I.H. There are Six Nurses who all hold Maternity and Nursing certificates employed within your district in Maternity Nursing, and Child Welfare Work.

#### **Laboratory Facilities.**

The North Riding Laboratory is at Scarborough so all Laboratory work is done there under the supervision of Dr. Fox-Linton. I understand some Laboratory work is to be done at the Headquarters of the North Riding Council at Northallerton.

#### **Ambulance Facilities.**

The Ambulance Facilities seem at present adequate for all cases of sickness that occur within the district. An Ambulance is stationed at Pickering which is the centre of the Rural District. This Ambulance is subsidised by both the Urban and Rural Councils. The Western part of your district makes use of a Private Ambulance which is stationed at Kirbymoorside. Any cases of infectious disease that are removed to hospital are conveyed by the hospital authorities.

### ***Nursing in the Homes.***

Voluntary Nursing Associations in conjunction with the Maternity Nurses supplied by the County Council are available for all parts of the Rural Area. These nurses are also in charge of Child Welfare Centres in several districts.

### ***Clinics and Treatment Centres.***

No Clinics or Treatment Centres exist within the district. For Tubercular and Venereal diseases Clinics and Treatment, the Centre is at Scarborough, and is available for this district,

For Orthopedic cases, Kirbymoorside is the Centre.

### ***Hospitals.***

There are no Hospitals either public or voluntary in the district. The Scarborough General Hospital and the Malton Cottage Hospital are the Hospitals that are chiefly used for general medical and surgical cases. We are still without an Isolation Hospital for infectious cases.

## **SECTION C. Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.**

### ***Water.***

As I reported last year the villages of Sinnington, Marton and Normanby and the village of Newton are still without a satisfactory supply of water both as to quantity and to quality.

With regard to the villages of Sinnington, Marton and Normanby, I am glad to state this condition is likely to be soon rectified. The Ministry have during the year sanctioned the laying down of a piped supply from a Well at Amotherby, which is in the Malton Rural District. A contract has been entered into with the Ministry's approval for the carrying out of the work which should be completed during the next three months.

With regard to Newton I am hopeful that this village may soon get an efficient supply which is so greatly needed.

In my Report for the year 1936, I wrote :—"No village suffers more in a prolonged drought than Newton, as it is entirely dependant on its supply by rainwater caught in cisterns. The difficulty of improving this condition is entirely due to the small rateable value of the Township. Any scheme that would be satisfactory would entail a rate on the parish that the ratepayer would be unable to meet, so unless the Ministry, the County Council and the District Council increase their contributions towards the initial cost, I am afraid nothing will be done." At the present time I am glad to state that the three bodies named have all agreed to give an increased contribution towards the initial cost. I trust with this help it will be found possible to give this village an efficient supply of water. The matter is receiving the consideration of your Council.

### ***Thornton-le-Dale.***

The supply during the year to this village since the burst watermain was discovered has been greatly improved. The parts of the village that are supplied from the lower reservoir have at all times had a satisfactory supply.



Occasionally there has been complaints that the houses which are supplied from the upper reservoir have had occasional shortage. During the year I have had the gathering ground around the Bush Spring enclosed. The enclosure of the Nabgate Spring is being proceeded with, as arrangements have now been made with the owner to allow this being done.

The water from the Springs which supply the various villages is submitted for Bacterial examination every second year. The samples that were submitted during the past year all proved satisfactory.

### ***Drainage and Sewerage.***

With the exception of a short length of new sewer in Roxby Lane there have been no new sewers laid. At Middleton work has been carried out in lowering the level of the outfall of the existing sewer. With the addition of the new Council Houses and the many Private Houses that are being built, the majority of which have Water Closets, the question of sewerage disposal becomes more difficult in most of the villages within your area. It is most marked in the village of Thornton-le-Dale, as the stream which flows through the village receives most of the village sewerage. Wherever possible the sewerage from the newly built houses is emptied into Septic Tanks, so that it is only the overflow from these tanks that finds its way into the streams.

### ***Rivers and Streams.***

All the the streams in the district are more or less the ultimate receptacle of the sewerage from the villages. Since the Catchment Board was established, the streams are kept much more cleanly, which has improved their condition as the flow is much more rapid.

### ***Closet Accomodation.***

The older houses in all the villages are mainly on the pail system, but where new houses have been built and piped supply of water is available, Water Closets have been put in. During the past year, eleven Privies have been converted into the water carriage system.

### ***Public Cleansing.***

No system of Public Cleansing exists in the district. During the past year refuse collections has been established in two or three of the larger villages. The question of providing refuse dumps for the various villages has become a somewhat difficult matter. The amount of tinned and bottled food that is now used is so much greater than it was a few years ago, that it makes it difficult to find a place to deposit the empty receptacles.

### ***Sanitary Inspection of Area.***

The following Tabular statement is furnished by the Sanitary Inspector, and taken from his Report.

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I herewith submit the Report of the Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Number of visits under Public Health Acts	.	...	151
„ „ „ Housing Acts	..	..	174
„ „ to Slaughter Houses	...	.	126
„ „ „ Dairies, Cowsheds, etc.,	..	.	121
„ „ under Conversion to Water Carriage System			11
„ „ to Works in Progress	...	...	305
„ „ „ Shops	...	...	52
Drainage Systems Renewed or Improved	...	..	27
Drains Inspected and Tested	...	...	38
„ „ „ Found Satisfactory	...	...	31
„ „ „ „ Defective	..	...	7

### ***Shops and Offices.***

No action has been found necessary under the Shops' Acts, 1934, as regards temperature and ventilation, but in one case arrangements have been made for better sanitary accommodation.

### ***Camping Sites.***

No Licences have been issued with regard to Camping Sites, occasionally in the Ellerburne Valley small numbers of Boy Scouts come for a short period, and camp in a field adjoining a Farm House. I should say that there are never more than 20 individuals camping at the same time. Passing motorists with caravans frequently stay one or two nights on the Saltersgate moors.

### ***Smoke Abatement.***

No nuisance exists from smoke in the district.

### ***Swimming Baths and Pools.***

There are no Public Baths or Swimming Pools in the district. At the Allerston Instuctional Centre a Bathing Pool has been established for the use of those attending the Centre.

### ***Eradication of Bed Bugs.***

No houses either Council Houses or Private Houses have been found infested with Bed Bugs. Cases of flea infection have been found and these have been dealt with by insecticide spraying.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. STOREY, A.R.S.I., M.I.H.,

Sanitary Inspector.

### ***Schools.***

All the Schools situated in villages where there is a piped water supply are connected with the main. The Schools of Sinnington, Marton and Normanby will be connected when the scheme that is now under construction is completed. The School at Kirby Misperton is without an efficient supply, the Managers have had notice to have the School connected with the public supply which now passes the School.

## **SECTION D. Housing.**

Gradually the need for more houses is being met, the process seems to be very slow of procuring sites, as each time a difficulty arises, some weeks have to elapse before the question receives consideration, as your Council only meets once a month. In most of the villages we have applications for houses by boni-fide Agricultural Workers.

## Housing Statistics.

### 1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the year :—

1. (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... ..	128
(b) Number of Inspections made for the purpose ... ..	147
2. (a) Number of Dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (I) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	23
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ... ..	34
3. Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ... ..	5
4. Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceeding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	43

### 2. Remedy of defects during the Year without Service of formal Notices :—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers ... ..	34
--	----

### 3. Action under Statutory Powers during the Year :—

A. Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... ..	5
2. Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	5
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	nil
B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... ..	18
2. Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners ... ..	18
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners ... ..	nil
C. Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1. Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	1
2. Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ...	1
D. Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :	
1. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... ..	nil
2. Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit ...	nil

### 4. Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding :—

A. 1. Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year ... ..	12
2. Number of families dwelling therein ... ..	12
3. Number of persons dwelling therein ... ..	62
B. Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year ... ..	nil
C. 1. Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year ... ..	2
2. Number of persons concerned in such cases ... ..	8
D. Particulars of any case in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding ... ..	nil



## SECTION E.     Inspection and Supervision of Food.

### *Milk Supply*

Inspection of the Farms and Dairies of those who hold a licence have been systematically carried out. for the most part these have been found to be kept in a cleanly condition.     The Milk Sellers where suggestions have been made to rectify unsatisfactory conditions have always been ready to carry out these suggestions.

### *Meat and other Foods.*

The Slaughter Houses and Butcher's Shops have been kept under supervision, and I submit a statement in tabulated form of the information required.

### *Carcases Inspected and Condemned.*

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)     ...					
Number inspected     ..     ...	208	15	19	387	156
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> Whole carcases condemned		1		6	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	36	7		27	9
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis.	17.3	53.3		8.52	8.3
<i>Tuberculosis only</i> Whole carcases condemned	2	1			3
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned.	7	4			7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	4.32	33.3			6.4

### *Nutrition.*

Child Welfare Centres are held in several parts of the district and monthly lectures are given on the subject of nutrition and other matters concerning the feeding of infants.

## SECTION F.     Prevalence and control over Infectious and other Diseases.

Your district was never more free from notifiable diseases than during last year, only three cases were notified, two of Scarlet Fever and one of Puerperal Pyrexia.

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1938.**

Disease.	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ... ..	none	none	none
Scarlet Fever ... ..	2		none
Diphtheria ... ..	none		none
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	none		none
Puerperal Fever ... ..	none	none	none
Puerperal Pyrexia ... ..	1		none
Pneumonia ... ..	none		none
Other diseases generally notifiable, specify disease	none		none
Other diseases notifiable locally, specify disease	none		none

**Prevention of Blindness.**

No action was required to be taken under Section 176 of the Public Health Act 1936, for the prevention of blindness

**Tuberculosis.**

No person employed in the Milk Trade was known to be suffering from Tuberculosis, and no person was compulsorily removed to hospital suffering from this disease.

Age Periods			New Cases				Deaths			
			Respiratory		Non Respiratory		Respiratory		Non Respiratory	
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
0	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		..
1	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		...
5	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		...
15	...	...	1	...		...	1	...		...
25	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		1
35	...	...	...	1		1	...	...		...
45	...	...	...	...		...	...	1		...
55	...	...	...	...		...	...	...		...
65 and upwards	...	...	..	...		...	...	...		...
Totals	...		1	1		1	1	1		1

There is no evidence of excessive incidence of mortality from Tuberculosis in any particular part of the area.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

**R. A. SCOTT,**

Medical Officer of Health,

Pickering Rural District.

June 15th, 1939.



